

Appln. No. 10/646,162  
Amendment dated February 27, 2006  
Reply to Office Action mailed November 29, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims** (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1        1. (Original) An alternate indicator for a component of an electronic  
2 device comprising:

3            an activity indicator visible from a panel of the electronic device, the  
4 activity indicator configured to provide a continuous indication of the  
5 presence of a first continuous operating condition associated with the  
6 electronic device; and

7            an activity detection circuit coupled to the activity indicator, the  
8 activity detection circuit configured to generate an activity signal when  
9 detecting a second periodic operating condition associated with the  
10 component, and to communicate the activity signal to the activity indicator;  
11            wherein the activity indicator is interrupted from continuously  
12 indicating the presence of the first continuous operating condition by the  
13 activity signal, thereby producing an indication of the second periodic  
14 operating condition.

1        2. (Previously presented) An alternate activity indicator according to  
2 claim 1, wherein the first continuous operating condition includes a power-  
3 on operating condition, and the second periodic condition includes a hard  
4 disk drive operating condition.

1        3. (Original) An alternate activity indicator according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the activity indicator includes a single color LED.

1        4. (Previously presented) An alternate activity indicator according to  
2 claim 1, wherein the electronic device includes a computer system, and  
3 wherein the component includes a hard disk drive.

Appln. No. 10/646,162  
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- 1        5. (Currently Amended) A computer system having an alternate
  - 2        activity indicator comprising:
    - 3            an indicator configured to provide illumination and being visible from
    - 4            a front panel of the computer system, the illumination of the indicator being
    - 5            provided in response to the presence of a first continuous operating
    - 6            condition; and
    - 7            an activity detection circuit coupled to the indicator, the activity
    - 8            detection circuit being configured to generate an activity signal indicative
    - 9            of the presence of a second periodic operating condition associated with a
    - 10          component of the computer system, and to communicate the activity signal
    - 11          to the indicator;
    - 12          wherein the indicator is configured to be interrupted from illuminating
    - 13          in response to the presence of the first continuous operating condition by
    - 14          the activity signal to thereby produce an indication of the second periodic
    - 15          operating condition comprising intervals when the indicator is interrupted
    - 16          from illuminating in response to the presence of the first continuous
    - 17          operating condition;
    - 18          wherein the activity indicator includes a single color LED; and
    - 19          wherein the continuous indication by the activity indicator is
    - 20          characterized by illumination of the activity indicator, and interruption of
    - 21          the continuous indication of the activity indicator is characterized by
    - 22          extinguishing the activity indicator.
  - 1        6. (Previously presented) A computer system according to claim 5,
  - 2        wherein the first continuous operating condition includes a power-on
  - 3        operating condition, and the second periodic operating condition includes a
  - 4        hard disk drive operating condition.
7. through 8. (Cancelled)

Appln. No. 10/646,162  
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1        9. (Currently Amended) An alternate indicator for a storage device of  
2 an electronic device comprising:

3              an activity indicator on the electronic device, the activity indicator  
4 being configured to provide a continuous indication of the presence of a  
5 power-on operating condition of the electronic device; and

6              an activity detection circuit coupled to the activity indicator, the  
7 activity detection circuit configured to generate an activity signal when  
8 detecting an intermittent operating condition associated with activity by the  
9 storage device, and to communicate the activity signal to the activity  
10 indicator;

11             wherein the activity indicator is interrupted from continuously  
12 indicating the presence of the power-on operating condition of the  
13 electronic device by the activity signal to thereby produce an indication of  
14 the intermittent operating condition of the storage device;

15             wherein the activity by the storage device comprises transferring data  
16 to or from the storage device;

17             wherein the storage device comprises a hard disk drive; and

18             wherein the continuous indication by the activity indicator is  
19 characterized by illumination of the activity indicator, and interruption of  
20 the continuous indication of the activity indicator is characterized by  
21 extinguishing the activity indicator.

1        10. through 13. (Cancelled)

1        14. (New) An alternate activity indicator according to claim 1,  
2 wherein the activity indicator comprises a single LED.

1

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1        15. (New) A computer system having an alternate activity indicator  
1 comprising:  
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3              a single indicator configured to provide illumination and being visible  
4 from a front panel of the computer system, the indicator being configured to  
5 illuminate in response to the presence of a power-on condition of the  
6 computer system; and

7              an activity detection circuit coupled to the indicator, the activity  
8 detection circuit being configured to generate an activity signal indicative  
9 of the presence of input/output activity on a hard disk drive of the computer  
10 system;

11             wherein the activity detection circuit is configured to communicate the  
12 activity signal to the single indicator in a manner such that detection of the  
13 presence of the input/output activity on the hard disk drive by the activity  
14 detection circuit causes interruption periodic extinguishment of the  
15 illumination of the indicator during the power-on condition of the computer  
16 system.

1        16. (New) A computer system according to claim 15, wherein the  
1 activity indicator includes a single color LED.